

Sub A'

What is claimed is:

1. 1. A method to provide copy protection for a content, the method comprising:
 3. descrambling the content delivered by a content provider using a local key;
 5. generating the local key from a programmable user key according to an authorization code provided by the content provider.
1. 2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
 2. receiving the authorization code via a communication channel.
1. 3. The method of Claim 2 wherein the communication channel is one of a return path of a cable connection, a telephone connection, and a network.
1. 4. The method of Claim 1 further comprising receiving the user key from the content provider via the communication channel.
1. 5. The method of Claim 1 wherein the user key is provided by a master CA device having the authorization code.
1. 6. The method of Claim 1 wherein the user key is embedded in a medium embodying the content.
1. 7. A conditional access (CA) device comprising:
 2. a descrambler to descramble a content delivered by a content provider
 3. using a local key;

4 a key generator coupled to the descrambler to generate the local key from
5 a user key according to an authorization code provided by the content provider

1 8. The CA device of Claim 7 further comprising:

2 a communication interface coupled to the key generator to receive the
3 authorization code via a communication channel.

1 9. The CA device of Claim 8 wherein the communication channel is
2 one of a return path of a cable connection, a telephone connection, and a
3 network.

1 10. The CA device of Claim 7 wherein the communication interface
2 further receives the user key from the content provider via the communication
3 channel.

1 11. The CA device of Claim 7 wherein the user key is provided by a
2 master CA device having the authorization code.

1 12. The CA device of Claim 7 wherein the user key is embedded in a
2 medium embodying the content.

1 13. A computer program product comprising:

2 a computer usable medium having computer program code embodied
3 therein to provide copy protection for a scrambled content, the computer
4 program product having:

5 computer readable program code for descrambling the content delivered
6 by a content provider using a local key;

7 computer readable program code for generating the local key from a
8 programmable user key according to an authorization code provided by the
9 content provider.

1 14. The computer program product of Claim 1 further comprising:

2 computer readable program code for receiving the authorization code via
3 a communication channel.

1 15. The computer program product of Claim 2 wherein the
2 communication channel is one of a return path of a cable connection, a telephone
3 connection, and a network.

1 16. The computer program product of Claim 1 further comprising
2 computer readable program code for receiving the user key from the content
3 provider via the communication channel.

1 17. The computer program product of Claim 1 wherein the user key is
2 provided by a master CA device having the authorization code.

1 18. The computer program product of Claim 1 wherein the user key is
2 embedded in a medium embodying the content.

add
RQ